Fuel problem.

479. *MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there was any definite proposal by the present Conservator of Forest to solve the fuel problem of the State;

(*b*) whether the Conservator of Forests opened any Forest coupe with Pythacolobium Dulcis;

(*c*) what was the extent of the forest cleared and planted with Pythacolobium Dulcis;

(*d*) whether this experiment was found to be successful; and

(*e*) what amount was spent on this experiment?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR: (*a*) Yes

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Some 305 acres of grassy open blanks in reserves were planted up with cashew and pythacolobium mixed and 20 acres of abandoned old clearings with pythacolobium, up to 1120.

(*d*) The experiment was found to be partly successful.

(*e*) The expenditure incurred was nominal and limited mainly to the value of the seeds since the work was done by Taungyadars.

MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR: In the answer it is stated that the experiment was partially successful. Shall I take that it is not completely successful?

RAO BAHADUR T. V VENKATESWARA AIYAR: The honourable member is quite at liberty to think so.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether the Conservator of Forests has started fire-wood depots in any of the Municipal Centres of the State?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKITESWARA AIYAR: No, I have not started.

Coppice coupe.

480 *MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what is the total extent of forest felled for coppice coupe after the present Conservator of Forests took charge; and

(*b*) whether they are growing well as expected and whether this experiment is a success?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKITESWARA AIYAR: (*a*) The total extent is 1139 acres.

(*b*) They are growing very well— it is not an experiment but a well recognised sylvicultural system practised widely by trained and experienced Forest Officers.

MR. K. BALAKRISHNA MENON: May I know where these areas are?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR: These are round about Punalur, Ayroor and near Trivandrum.

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